

TANGLED WRECKAGE MARKS SCENE OF DISASTER.

(Continued from First Page.)

required for the day's blasting, probably. But the day was half gone when the explosion occurred, and, of course, what was in the shanty at that time was a proportionately small amount."

200 PLACES JUST AS BAD.

The Park avenue dynamite explosion has brought to light the fact that 200 permits for the storage of dynamite are in force in New York City.

Each permit calls for from fifty to sixty-two pounds of dynamite.

Five or six tons of dynamite, enough to wreck half Manhattan Island, is therefore stored about the city legally.

How many more tons of the explosive are in the city without permit only rigid investigation will tell.

That Mayor Low is contemplating such an investigation is indicated in his demanding from the Rapid Transit Board a statement of how much dynamite was stored along the Rapid Transit route at the hour of the explosion.

Fifteen Subway Permits.

Of the two hundred dynamite permits in force, only fifteen have been issued to subway contractors, according to George E. Lurray, Chief of the Bureau of Combustibles.

These permits were issued to the contractors on the sections named as follows:

Holbrook, Cabot & Daly, Great Jones street to Thirty-fourth street, one permit.

B. Shaler, Thirty-fourth to Forty-second street, two permits.

Degnan & McLean, Forty-second street and Park avenue to Forty-seventh street and Broadway, one permit.

Naughton & Co., Forty-seventh to Sixty-first street, one permit.

Bradley, Sixty-first to One Hundred and Fourth street, three permits.

Farrell & Hopper, One Hundred and Third street and Broadway to One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street and Lenox avenue, one permit.

J. C. Rogers, from Harlem River to Westchester avenue, one permit.

Shields, from One Hundred and Fourth to One Hundred and Thirty-third street, one permit.

L. B. McCabe, One Hundred and Thirty-third street to Dykman avenue, three permits.

McBean & Williams, under Harlem River, one permit.

The rest of the two hundred permits for the storage of explosives now in force are for such work as excavations for cellars, sewers, street railway work, telephone and telegraph construction.

Reporters for The Evening World went along the entire line of the rapid transit subway to learn how the dynamite used in blasting is stored and handled, the quantities that are stored in various places and the position of a repetition of yesterday's disaster.

Where the Dynamite Is.

Section 1 and 2, which include the City Hall loop and the line along Elm street to Great Jones street, were sublet to Degnan & McLean. There is no blasting needed on these sections.

Section 3, extending from Great Jones street to Thirty-fourth street, extends for almost the entire distance through solid rock. In the vicinity of Union square blasting has been going on for months. At Eighteenth and Twenty-third streets heavy blasts have been fired daily for several weeks.

Holbrook, Cabot & Daly have the contract for section 3, Charles Furey, the foreman in charge of the work, says that all of the explosives used on the entire section are stored in a little shanty in Union square, just west of the Washington Monument.

Dynamite Stored Safely.

"An explosion is not possible here," said Foreman Furey. "We receive the dynamite from the manufacturers in New Jersey. It comes in boxes holding fifty pounds. When we have any left over at night we notify the office, and the manufacturers are instructed by telephone as to how much to supply the next day."

"I do not know the quantity we are permitted to store here, but I have never known more than fifty-eight pounds to be here at one time."

"We keep the dynamite box buried in a pile of compost, which prevents it from freezing, and this avoids the trouble of thawing it."

"The dynamite is inspected each day by Supp. Keenan who represents Holbrook, Cabot & Daly, as well as by inspectors for the manufacturers."

"City inspectors also visit us at intervals and examine our system and look over our stock of explosives."

"As a further precaution, we keep the caps used for setting off the dynamite, and which we call 'legions,' at least two blocks from the storehouse in which the dynamite is kept. We are not using more than three or four pounds of dynamite at present each day."

Keep 100 Pounds on Hand.

On section 4A of the subway, which extends from Forty-second street and Fourth avenue to Broadway and Forty-seventh street, the contractors are Degnan & McLean. The engineer is Henry Sanford. He said they had two permits which allowed them to carry 100 pounds of dynamite. The dynamite comes in sticks of one pound each. There are fifty sticks in a bag, he said.

In making a blast half a pound was generally used. He said if fifty pounds were exploded at once it would cause a great deal of damage.

"Would fifty pounds do as much dam-

PERILS OF NEW YORK.



LAW AND THE PENALTY.

A person who makes or keeps gunpowder or any other explosive substance within a city or village in any quantity or manner prohibited by law, or by ordinance of the city or village, if any explosion thereof occurs, whereby the death of a human being is occasioned, is guilty of manslaughter in the second degree.

The maximum punishment is fifteen years in State Prison or \$1,000 fine, or both.—Penal Code, Section 201.

and do have their remedy against such contractor or sub-contractor as was responsible for the violation of the requirements prescribed by the Board and Chief Engineer.

WRECKAGE MARKS DISASTER SCENE.

A tangled mass of wreckage to-day marks the scene of the dynamite disaster.

Over the curious throngs come to view the wreckage the high wind sweeps great clouds of dust.

Behind these temporary fronts, which the cold winds penetrated with little difficulty, doors and shopkeepers, banded up in cocoons and fur caps, tried to attend to the little business that came their way.

But business was apparently dead this morning in the explosion-wrecked area. Not that the place was not frequented, 200 policemen were kept busy.

The Murray Hill Hotel was open for business. Its proprietors said, but no business came.

The building was in exactly the same condition as an hour after the explosion. No attempt had been made to even shut off the wind by sheeting canvas across the window apertures.

Inside piles of wreckage in which were indescribable bits of all kinds of interior furnishings were massed knee-deep in corridors, dining and lounge rooms on the street floor. Up above, in the sleeping apartments, there was not a square foot where the effects of the concussion had not got in its ruinous work.

The picture presented in the Grand Union Hotel opposite differed only in that the destruction was not so widespread.

The Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, near the Grand Union, was deserted. The building had been abandoned as dangerous late in the evening and the patients transferred to several institutions.

"I have at present no means of telling who was responsible for the violation of the requirements of the Board and the Chief Engineer."

"I cannot speak for the Board, but I have no doubt that an investigation will be instantly made by the Board to ascertain where that responsibility rests."

"The Rapid Transit contract provides remedies against the contractor and his agents for any loss to the city by reason of this or any other violation of the Rapid Transit contract."

"The destructive explosion of dynamite yesterday, in connection with the subway work on Park avenue, between

Forty-first and Forty-second streets, constrains me to ask you to report to me, at your early convenience, what arrangements are made for the handling of this explosive on the other sections of the work, and what precautions are taken to avoid similar catastrophes elsewhere."

Especially, I should like to know the amount of dynamite on hand in each magazine, along the route at the hour of yesterday's explosion.

SETH LOW, Mayor.

Mayor Low was asked if there is any deep significance in the last sentence of his letter to the Rapid Transit Commissioners.

"Do you intend to prosecute if the law regarding the storage of explosives has been violated?" was the question put.

The Mayor smiled and answered: "That is a hypothetical question."

Mr. Furr, speaking of Mayor Low's letter, said:

"I am making a formal reply to it. I will state to the public that the investigation he requests will be made without delay. In fact it is already on and I hope that Mr. Parsons will be able to report at the regular meeting on Thursday."

Several inspectors from the Bureau of Combustibles are now questioning the laborers employed at the shaft where the explosion occurred.

Inspectors say that according to the best information they have so far obtained the blast was caused by a fire in the shanty where the combustibles were stored.

They say it is possible that a few of the cartridges went off separately before the grand explosion took place. They say also that there was no reliance in the story that the explosion was caused by a portable magazine being struck by a derick.

Chief Croker said that there is reason to believe there was fire in the shanty.

"I have received a letter from a business man, S. E. Steilman, hydraulic engineer, No. 34 East Forty-third street," he said. "In the letter Mr. Steilman says that the brother of a clerk of his, named with his life by running away from the place where the dynamite was stored, as soon as he saw the men working near the magazine was burning."

It was supposed that the intention of the rebel gunboat was to land soldiers in the town, but the Commandant says that he did not see any of them come ashore. He left the next day for Colon and was told at Managua that a force of Liberals had been seen the day before.

Complete figures regarding the number injured in the explosion will never be known. It may reach as high as 1,000.

A dozen patients remain in various hospitals to-day. None of them is in a dangerous condition, and the death list of six will not be increased. Between 125 and 150 were so seriously injured as to need the attention of hospital surgeons, but scores were treated in drug stores and in the streets by volunteer physicians and went away immediately.

Many passengers in the Grand Central Depot were hurt, and other persons hurt along the station were cut by the glass, but bound up their wounds and took trains for other States.

An idea of the extent of damage may be gained from the statement of a physician in the Manhattan Eye and Ear Infirmary. He says that so far as he knows not one of the sixty-five patients

or fifty physicians and nurses in the hospital escaped injury. All were hurt more or less seriously.

Simon Fort, one of the proprietors of the Grand Union Hotel, says that the blasting operations along Fourth avenue have been done carefully.

"I have complained time and again to Contractor McDonald," he says. "The blasting has been entirely too heavy before this explosion. It has been frightening my guests and injuring my business."

NOBODY PUNISHED YET FOR TARRANT EXPLOSION.

Coroner's Jury in Verdict Said "Criminally Responsible"—Case Not Called for Trial.

The fire and explosion in the establishment of Tarrant & Co. occurred Oct. 25, 1900.

Seven lives were lost, nearly one hundred persons were hurt and property worth \$100,000 was destroyed.

Though several authorities have declared that the explosion was due to criminal carelessness and to a disobedience of the laws relating to explosives, no one has been placed on trial.

The history of the disaster and the steps that have been taken by the authorities give a typical picture of "the law's delay."

The explosion occurred about noon Oct. 25. It was a week before the ruins were cleared away and the death list was definitely known.

Investigations into the cause of the disaster were made by the Fire Department and the Underwriters' Association.

Fire Marshal Seery, who conducted the inquiry for the Fire Department, made his report to Fire Commissioner Scannell Jan. 3, 1901. He recommended that the testimony he had taken be submitted to the District Attorney to determine if there was criminal neglect.

Law Was Violated.

Fire Marshal Seery's report showed that immense quantities of drugs and chemicals were stored in the building contrary to law. He submitted the following as a partial list of the drugs:

Chlorate of potash, 25 tons.

Flowers of sulphur, 42 barrels.

Nitrate of strontia, 16 barrels.

Nitrate of barium, 10 kegs.

Jan. 11 the coroner's jury returned a verdict as follows:

"We find that the said explosion was caused by the storage of combustible chemicals in excess of the quantities permitted by law, and we hold Tarrant & Co. criminally responsible for the deaths of deceased."

It was shown that Tarrant & Co. had no storehouse permit, and the quantities of chemicals in the second degree store would not have caused an explosion that would have been dangerous to persons in the same store, where the drugs were stored. Yet the explosion struck an entire block and demolished a large portion of the North avenue L. road structure.

Jan. 12 Thomas P. Mann and William G. H. Powers, President and Secretary of Tarrant & Co., appeared before Coroner Brainerd and were each fined \$500 each for their appearance.

Many Postponements.

On July 12, nearly nine months after the explosion, the grand jury indicted Mann and Powers, charging them with manslaughter in the second degree. They were arraigned before Recorder Smith two days later, pleaded not guilty and furnished new bail bonds.

Since that time the case has been called into court several times, but the case has never been called for trial.

District Attorney Jerome recently announced that Powers and Mann would stand on trial at once. They were called before Judge Warren W. Foster in General Sessions Jan. 6, but at the request of their attorneys the case was again postponed.

FIRST VOLLEY KILLED ALBAN

Government Leader Fell Early in Naval Fight at Colon.

The steamship Finance, of the Panama Railroad Company, which arrived to-day from Colon, brought with her Commandant Louis Bourgeois, chief of the Geodesic Service of the French Army, who saw the naval engagement in the harbor of Panama on Jan. 15 between the Liberal gunboat Almirante Padilla and the Colombian Government gunboat Lautaro.

Commandant Bourgeois was awakened at 6 o'clock in the morning by the firing in the harbor and went out on the roof of the Panama Company's warehouse, where he had a view of the entire bay.

The Padilla was firing every gun and circling around the other ship, whose machinery was out of order. Gen. Alban, on the Government boat, was killed on the first discharge of the Padilla's guns.

The commandant says he could see the men on the decks of both ships plainly, and while the Padilla seemed to be crowded with men, the Government ship was short-handed. The Padilla was firing every gun, while the other ship, being short-handed, was only able to respond with her fore and aft Gatling guns.

The Lautaro received a terrible beating. The Padilla went around and around her, raking her fore and aft until the gunboat was a dismantled hulk. The men on the government boat fought nobly, but in vain against their more powerful foe.

Even while the flames were raging the soldiers on the Lautaro kept firing their guns until they were forced to jump overboard because of the excessive heat. At 8 o'clock the Lautaro sank and her boilers blew up with a roar that was heard many miles.

The crew of the Liberal gunboat made no attempt to rescue the crew of the other ship, who were vainly attempting to swim in the harbor and whose cries for help could be heard on shore.

The two ships were so close together that if the shot had been directed shoreward the town would have been bombarded.

It was supposed that the intention of the rebel gunboat was to land soldiers in the town, but the Commandant says that he did not see any of them come ashore. He left the next day for Colon and was told at Managua that a force of Liberals had been seen the day before.

Chief Clerk C. B. Freeman, of the New Rochelle Postoffice, who disappeared on Dec. 26, when a shortage of \$229 was found in his accounts was caught yesterday and sent to Ludlow Street Jail.

His father-in-law, Abram Montifi, Postmaster of Larchmont, has offered to make good the amount for the sake of his daughter and little grandson.

REVENUE LAW ARREST.

Against Robert Henderson.

Robert Henderson, who said he was a clerk and resided at No. 290 Schermerhorn street, Brooklyn, was arrested by Revenue Collector Frank G. Thompson last night, charged with violating the internal revenue laws. He was detained at the Old 8th station at the request of the revenue agent, and the police there knew nothing further of the circumstances leading to his arrest.

\$150,000 FOR HIS TORTURES

Hippolyte Lambert Petitions that Venezuela Be Made to Pay.

Hippolyte Lambert, a naturalized American citizen, who says he was tortured by soldiers of the Venezuelan Government last July, has sent a petition to John Hay, Secretary of State, at Washington, demanding \$150,000 from the Venezuelan Government for injuries and loss of many valuable papers.

In his petition Lambert claims to have been arrested on July 16, 1901, by a prefect of police in Caracas and thrown into prison. His valuables, containing all his certificates and passports, two photographs and a manuscript on the economic and sociological history of North and South America for twenty-five years, was taken from him.

Unable to See Consul.

He was then taken to Lagunillas and imprisoned there, and in spite of his protestations was not allowed to see the American Consul or communicate with any one.

On July 15 Lambert says he was transferred to the military prison in Lagunillas, and on his refusal to enter the prison was beaten with a horse-whip. He broke away from the soldiers, who chased him around the prison yard, and, cornering him, proceeded to prod and beat him with their bayonets.

Although badly wounded Lambert was not allowed to see a doctor, and was left without food or water. On the 18th, when he demanded to be allowed to see the American Consul, the soldiers tied his thumbs together and hung him up in the cell so that his toes barely touched the ground. He was also tortured by being "trussed" until he became unconscious.

Forcefully Deported.

On July 22 Lambert was told that he had been ordered to depart from Venezuela, and was forcibly put on board the West India and Homberg steamship Castilla and taken to the port of Sanchez, San Domingo.

CLERK FREEMAN CAUGHT.

Missing from New Rochelle Since December—Also \$2200.

Chief Clerk C. B. Freeman, of the New Rochelle Postoffice, who disappeared on Dec. 26, when a shortage of \$229 was found in his accounts was caught yesterday and sent to Ludlow Street Jail.

His father-in-law, Abram Montifi, Postmaster of Larchmont, has offered to make good the amount for the sake of his daughter and little grandson.

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The wine increases the appetite and the medicinal elements of the cod's liver strengthens the muscles and adds flesh. Yet it contains no oil or grease and is deliciously palatable.

We know Vinol is a wonderful and powerful builder, and in advising you to take it we know what we are talking about. Vinol is what we say it is; and if you are tired and all worn out do not let another day pass without getting a bottle of it.

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WANTED: 22 RENEWERS, 7

WANTED: 22 SALADERS, 7

WANTED: 22 SEAMSTRESSES, 7

WANTED: 22 SHORHMEN, 7

WANTED: 22 SKIRT HANDS, 7

WANTED: 22 SLAVEY HANDS, 7

WANTED: 22 STOCK CLERKS, 7

WANTED: 22 TAILORS, 7

WANTED: 22 TUCKERS, 7

WANTED: 22 WAIT HANDS, 7

WANTED: 22 WAITRESSES, 7

WANTED: 22 WOODWORKERS, 7

WANTED: 22 MISCELLANEOUS, 7

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